

P R O C E E D I N G S  
O F T H E  
A M E R I C A N P H I L O S O P H I C A L S O C I E T Y  
H E L D A T P H I L A D E L P H I A F O R P R O M O T I N G U S E F U L K N O W L E D G E .

VOL. XXXI.

APRIL, MAY, JUNE, 1893.

No. 141.

*Stated Meeting, April 7, 1893.*

Mr. SMYTH in the Chair.

Letters of envoy were received from the Nederlandsche Maatschappij ter Bevordering van Nijverheid, Haarlem, Holland; Società Italiana delle Scienze, Naples; Meteorological Office, London, England; Geological Survey Department of Canada, Ottawa; Academy of Science, Tacoma, Washington; Museo de La Plata, Buenos Ayres.

Letters of acknowledgment were received from the Institut Egyptien, Cairo (138); Società Africana d'Italia, Naples (137); Prof. Gaston Maspero, Paris, France (136); Geological Society of America, Rochester, N. Y. (139); Mr. Andrew S. McCreath, Harrisburg, Pa. (139); Department of State, Washington, D. C. (131-136); "Journal of the U. S. Artillery," Fortress Monroe, Va. (137, 138, 139); Society of Natural History, Cincinnati, Ohio (139); Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio (137, 138, Catalogue, Parts i-iv); Lick Observatory, Mount Hamilton, Cal. (133); Mr. Everard F. im Thurn, Georgetown, British Guiana (139).

Accessions to the Library were reported from the Institut Egyptien, Cairo; Nederlandsche Maatschappij ter Bevordering van Nijverheid, Haarlem, Holland; Geographische Gesellschaft, Vienna, Austria; Physiologische Gesellschaft, Deutsche Geologische Gesellschaft, Berlin, Prussia; Prof. H. von Helmholtz, Charlottenburg, Prussia; Naturwissenschaftliche Gesellschaft, St. Gall, Switzerland; R. Istituto Lombardo, Milan,

Italy; Società delle Scienze, Naples, Italy; Rassegna delle Scienze Geologiche in Italia, Institut Internationale de Statistique, Rome; R. Accademie delle Scienze, Turin; R. Istituto Veneto, Venice, Italy; Institut de France, Paris; Harleian Society, London, England; Geological Survey of Canada, Ottawa; New England Historic Genealogical Society, American Statistical Association, Boston, Mass.; Connecticut Historical Society, Hartford; Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.; American Museum of Natural History, New York; Board of Directors of City Trusts, Engineers' Club, Messrs. Henry Phillips, Jr., Herbert Welsh, Philadelphia; Department of the Interior, U. S. Fish Commission, Washington, D. C.; Academy of Science, St. Louis, Mo.; Lick Observatory, Mount Hamilton, Cal.;- Agricultural Experiment Stations, Morgantown, W. Va., Larami, Wyo.; Las Cruces, N. Mex., Tucson, Ariz.; Museo de La Plata, La Plata, Argentine Republic.

Photographs for the Society's Album were received of Dr. F. A. Genth and Prof. F. A. Genth, Jr., Philadelphia.

The death of Isaac Burk (March 30, 1893, æt. 77) was announced:

The Committee on Dr. Phillips' paper on "Gases" reported it worthy of publication in the Transactions of the Society, and was discharged.

Pending nominations Nos. 1249, 1250, 1253, 1255, 1256 were read.

Dr. Ryder presented for the Proceedings a paper entitled "Energy as a Factor in Organic Evolution."

Dr. Cope presented a paper by Thomas G. Gentry on "The Higher Fungi of Philadelphia and its Neighborhood."

Dr. Cope offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the American Philosophical Society disapproves of the terms of the bill, No. 163, presented by Mr. J. H. Fow to the Legislature of Pennsylvania, entitled "An act to prohibit public exhibitions of mental or physical deformities in certain public places," as opposed to the interests of education and scientific research, and as injurious to the

interests of the class of persons whose exhibition for compensation is forbidden by its terms.

On motion, the Society adopted the resolution and referred the matter to the President, with power to make such representations to the Legislature as he might choose, if in his discretion he saw fit so to do.

And the Society was adjourned by the Presiding Member.

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*Stated Meeting, April 21, 1893.*

President, Mr. FRALEY, in the Chair.

Correspondence was submitted as follows:

A circular relating to the Hodgkins prizes offered by the Smithsonian Institution.

Letters of acknowledgment were received from Mr. Samuel Davenport, Adelaide, Australia (138); Société de Géographie de Finlande, Helsingfors (137, 138); K. Bibliothek, Berlin, Prussia (Transactions, xvii, 1, 2); Société de Géographie, Société Philologique, Marquis de Nadaillac, Profs. E. Levasseur, G. Maspero, Paris, France (139); Comte Hyacinth de Charencey, St. Maurice-les-Charencey, France (139); Prof. Alexander Agassiz, Cambridge, Mass. (139); Mercantile Library, St. Louis, Mo. (Catalogue, Parts i-iv).

Accessions to the Library were reported from the Congrès Internationaux, d'Anthropologie, Archæologie préhistorique et Zoologie, Moscow, Russia; Société de Géographie de Finlande, Helsingfors; Nederlandsche Maatschappij ter bevordering van Nijverheid, Harlem, Holland; K. P. Meteorologisch Institut, K. P. Akademie der Wissenschaften, Berlin, Prussia; Frau Gerhard vom Rath, Leipzig, Saxony; R. Istituto di Studi Superiori, Firenze, Italy; Accademia di Scienze Morale e